



MI-CW3609

# Michigan Crop Weather

September 8, 2009

### Sunny and Dry

Seven days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 6, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from no precipitation in the western Upper Peninsula, northeast, west central, central, east central, and southwest to Lower Peninsula to 0.41 in the southeast Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 5 degrees below normal in the southeast, southwest, and south central Lower Peninsula to normal temperatures in the eastern Upper Peninsula. This was a normal late summer week with moderate but below normal temperatures. Crops are continuing to progress well with the warm and sunny temperatures experienced last week. Some cool overnight temperatures were seen last week as low as 31 degrees in the western Upper Peninsula and 33 degrees in the northwest Lower Peninsula. A grower in the central Lower Peninsula commented, "The wide range in crop conditions is due to both spring rain issues and maturity issues. If we do not get a frost until November, then the crop condition will be greatly improved." Another grower from the east central Lower Peninsula commented, "We will need to get past our normal frost date. If we get a long warm fall we could have some record yields."

### Field Crops

Pleasant conditions, and minimal precipitation, helped progress the development of crops in all areas of the State. However, many farmers were still concerned about the development of corn and soybeans prior to the frost. Farmers continued preparing **wheat** fields for the 2010 crop. Activities included liming, spreading manure, spraying and tilling. Continual reports of the 2010 wheat crop could be planted late depending on the harvest of soybeans. **Oat** harvest was all but complete. **Corn** was in growth stages ranging from milk to dent. **Soybeans** were in growth stages R4-R6. The soybeans were still short but had numerous pods. Development of both crops was still behind as heat units still were needed. **Alfalfa** harvest continued, with some farmers receiving a fourth cutting. In the southeast, some farmers have begun to seed new alfalfa. Farmers were putting finishing touches on equipment used for the harvest of **sugarbeets**. Harvest should begin September 12. **Dry bean** advancement continued. Some fields were setting and filling pods. In the Thumb, white mold was a problem.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/06/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	2	19	75	4
Subsoil	4	20	74	2

Crop progress for week ending 09/06/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, second cutting	90	86	99	99
All hay, third cutting	54	39	67	67
All hay, fourth cutting	10	2	9	10
Apples, harvested	11	7	14	11
Blueberries, harvested	99	91	94	96
Corn, dough	75	65	89	88
Corn, dent	21	13	65	62
Corn silage, harvested	2	1	21	24
Dry beans, setting pods	99	92	100	100
Dry beans, turning leaves	45	17	64	78
Dry beans, dropping leaves	18	3	21	41
Oats, harvested	91	84	100	98
Peaches, harvested	65	56	56	75
Potatoes, harvested	26	17	29	24
Soybeans, turning leaves	6	1	41	35
Soybeans, dropping leaves	0	0	10	8

### Fruit

Harvest of Ginger Gold, Williams Pride, Zestar, Mollies Delicious, Jonamac, McIntosh and Gala **apples** was underway in the southwest. **Blueberry** harvest was completed for the most part, with a few growers still harvesting Elliott blueberries. Cresthaven, PF25, Loring, Glowingsstar, PF19-007, PF23, PF244-007, PF24C **peaches** were being picked in the southwest; brown rot was common in some orchards. Bartlett **pears** continued to be harvested. In the southwest, Anjou and Bosc winter pears were also being picked. Stanley **plums** were being harvested. In the southwest, harvest of NY9, Italian, Red Heart, and Vision plums was underway. Fall **raspberry** harvest continued. Harvest of Mars, Fredonia, Himrod, Vanessa, and Marquis **grapes** was underway in the southwest; harvest of Niagara grapes is expected to begin in late September. In the northwest, grapes were at veraison.

### Vegetables

**Tomato** harvest continued across the State. In the east central region, some fields were showing the effects of water damage from early in the season, and cracking was observed on some of the heirloom varieties. In the southwest, some blossom end rot has appeared in tomatoes due to recent warmer temperatures. **Sweet corn** harvest also continued with most farms reporting a good crop with few pest issues; cooler temperatures have slowed the development of later plantings. **Pepper** and **eggplant** harvest continued with few problems reported. **Zucchini** and **yellow squash** harvest continued, but slowed due to cooler temperatures. **Watermelons** were harvested in a number of locations, while **pumpkin**, **winter squash**, and **cantaloup** development continued; growers were advised to stay on top of protective sprays due to powdery mildew. **Carrot**, **lettuce**, **celery**, **onion**, **cucumber** and **pickle** harvest continued across the State; cucurbit downy mildew continued to be a problem for cucumber and pickle growers.

Crop condition for week ending 09/06/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	3	8	24	52	13
Corn	5	11	26	46	12
Dry beans	4	11	39	40	6
Pasture	5	10	30	45	10
Soybeans	5	12	30	41	12

Percent of fall seasons (1961-1990) in which first freeze occurred on or before the date (mo/day) given in the table

Station	90%	70%	50%	30%	10%
Alma	10/24	10/15	10/08	10/20	9/25
Alpena	10/07	9/29	9/24	9/18	9/08
Bad Axe	10/28	10/19	10/13	10/06	9/27
Caro	10/06	9/27	9/23	9/17	9/07
Chatham	10/06	9/25	9/17	9/08	8/24
Coldwater	10/17	10/10	10/05	9/30	9/23
Eau Claire	11/05	10/28	10/22	10/16	10/07
Grand Rapids	10/24	10/15	10/09	10/03	9/25
Hesperia	10/12	10/03	9/26	9/20	9/11
Lansing	10/15	10/08	10/03	9/27	9/19
Lapeer	10/16	10/06	9/28	9/19	9/03
Monroe	11/02	10/26	10/20	10/15	10/06
Saginaw	10/30	10/22	10/16	10/10	10/02
Sandusky	10/25	10/16	10/09	9/30	9/16
S.S. Marie	10/12	10/02	9/25	9/18	9/08
Standish	10/12	10/01	9/24	9/16	9/05
Stephenson	9/29	9/23	9/18	9/12	9/03
Traverse City	10/20	10/10	10/02	9/25	9/13

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/07/09 <sup>1</sup>

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	77	43		1,551	1,671		0.00	1.31	2.92	11.01		
Marquette	79	43		1,437	1,583		0.00	1.31	2.92	12.06		
Stephenson	81	41		1,777	1,959		0.00	0.95	2.22	13.16		
Western UP	81	31	-1	1,544	1,660	1,732	0.00	1.32	2.80	12.60	17.19	3.58
Cornell	78	42		1,646	1,868		0.02	0.76	1.97	12.52		
Sault St Marie	79	46		1,456	1,628		0.06	1.20	2.71	13.21		
Eastern UP	79	39	0	1,445	1,627	1,525	0.02	0.84	2.35	14.27	16.12	3.55
Beulah	79	40		1,826	2,131		0.00	1.77	2.71	17.87		
Lake City	79	37		1,755	1,998		0.00	0.87	2.68	17.69		
Old Mission	80	43		1,724	2,039		0.00	1.24	2.90	12.34		
Pellston	80	38		1,633	1,915		0.00	1.15	4.97	12.39		
Northwest	80	33	-2	1,689	1,967	1,959	0.02	1.07	2.82	13.19	15.11	3.66
Alpena	79	39		1,744	1,994		0.00	2.37	4.15	19.02		
Houghton Lake	78	34		1,771	2,045		0.00	0.82	1.44	16.27		
Rogers City	79	42		1,705	1,984		0.00	0.91	4.99	20.75		
Northeast	79	34	-3	1,733	1,996	1,898	0.00	1.32	3.45	17.55	15.18	3.47
Fremont	83	39		1,991	2,209		0.00	0.40	1.76	14.94		
Hart	81	40		1,879	2,106		0.00	1.14	2.07	16.82		
Muskegon	81	41		2,163	2,231		0.00	0.96	2.24	14.58		
West Central	83	35	-4	1,978	2,149	2,135	0.00	0.74	1.99	16.19	15.48	3.19
Alma	80	43		2,039	2,321		0.00	0.98	1.51	19.08		
Big Rapids	78	38		1,896	2,202		0.00	1.27	1.87	21.49		
Central	81	38	-3	1,970	2,245	2,205	0.00	0.90	1.65	18.26	16.40	3.09
Bad Axe	79	42		1,913	2,245		0.00	0.48	0.58	16.38		
Pigeon	79	41		1,881	2,149		0.00	0.27	0.87	16.65		
Saginaw	80	43		2,104	2,376		0.00	0.43	0.74	15.91		
Standish	79	38		1,874	2,105		0.00	0.93	1.75	15.23		
East Central	80	38	-4	1,905	2,240	2,204	0.00	0.53	1.04	16.83	14.58	2.70
Fennville	80	41		2,077	2,244		0.00	1.96	3.04	18.92		
Grand Rapids	79	44		2,306	2,562		0.00	1.64	2.19	21.27		
Holland	81	44		2,399	2,586		0.00	2.12	3.81	30.26		
South Bend, IN	78	46		2,442	2,637		0.03	1.90	6.78	21.69		
Watervliet	80	43		2,246	2,419		0.00	1.82	3.71	17.93		
Southwest	82	36	-5	2,262	2,442	2,396	0.00	1.79	3.70	19.42	16.74	3.26
Belding	82	38		2,010	2,271		0.00	0.57	1.50	18.44		
Coldwater	82	41		2,315	2,412		0.06	0.94	3.46	17.72		
Lansing	78	42		2,186	2,478		0.00	2.13	2.63	24.28		
South Central	82	38	-5	2,133	2,400	2,358	0.03	1.29	2.39	19.88	16.75	2.79
Detroit	81	50		2,479	2,742		0.22	0.93	1.61	18.72		
Flint	79	43		2,135	2,519		0.00	0.53	1.14	22.14		
Romeo	80	44		2,142	2,383		0.36	1.41	1.66	17.32		
Tipton	80	45		2,195	2,469		0.31	1.96	3.13	17.42		
Toledo, OH	81	47		2,487	2,699		1.95	2.62	4.21	18.43		
Southeast	82	39	-5	2,236	2,526	2,354	0.41	1.58	2.42	17.41	16.04	2.43

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.